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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with sadness of the death of Virginia Ann Wirtz Balmes of North Chicago on December 28, 2004; and

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WHEREAS, She was born December 10, 1920 in Freemont Township; and

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WHEREAS, She received her teaching certification from Northern Illinois University in 1941 and taught at Wadsworth School in Wadsworth and Lindberg School in North Chicago before becoming co-owner of Balmes Florist in North Chicago that was established in 1951; and

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WHEREAS, She was active in North Chicago Women's Club, Center for the Arts in North Chicago, and served on the Family Service Board; and

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WHEREAS, Virginia was an active member of Queen of Peace Church (formally Holy Family) in North Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, She is preceded in death by her son, Michael Balmes; her sister, Edith Marie Wirtz; and her parents, Frank and Bertha Wirtz; and

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WHEREAS, The passing of Virginia Ann Wirtz Balmes has been felt by all who knew and loved her, especially her husband of 62 years, Wilfred Balmes, Sr.; her children, Kathleen Scott, Pam (the late Michael) Balmes, Jeanne Balmes, Julianne (Gary) Gehrig, Peter (Robin) Balmes, and Wilfred (Aleta) Balmes, Jr.; her grandchildren, Elizabeth (Richard) Hubbard, Jacob (Michele) Balmes, Kathryn Balmes, Ann Balmes, Peter (Traci) Gehrig, Drew Gehrig, Sara (Marc) Jackson, Keli Balmes, and P. Joseph Balmes; her great-grandchildren, Gwen Balmes, Wyatt Balmes, Aidan Jackson, Sydney Jackson, and Christian Jackson;

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1 and her sister, Frances Wannamaker; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
4 Virginia Ann Wirtz Balmes and we extend our sincerest  
5 condolences to her family, friends, and community; and be it  
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8 presented to her family as an expression of our deepest  
9 sympathy.